Room 41 Major Block
Chicago March 13th/79

My Dear Mr Garrison:

49

The American Traveller

containing your very powerful letter in reply to Mr Blaine was received to day, and also your most interesting letter to me inclosing your first letter to Mr Blaine, and your excellent poem "after Burns" entitled "Human Equality", which I had never before seen, for all of which I thank you most sincerely. I am so glad to receive one more letter from you, the last before this is dated more than a score of years ago. Who could have foreseen that you would be called upon to lead in rousing the American people to protect Chinese immigrants against Irish immigrants!

The spirit which has been evoked against the Chinese has far less excuse or defense than had African Slavery, if possible. It has been born of Catholic jealousy, and its life

is Irish hate. Catholicism in this country, has always from prudential motives been careful not to show its teeth to any body, but it will guard its claim to the sole monopoly and use of the working mases "on whom it lives moves and has its being", at all and every hazard. It has always gathered up, devoured, and rapidly grown lusty by feeding upon the spiritually enslaved mases of Irish, and other laboring men and women. It will never tolerate what it cannot appropriate and utilize.

I am very strongly suspicious that the opposition to Chinese immigration, has its secret source in the counceils of the Catholic priesthood, and that Dennis Kearney receives his orders from the authorities in the Catholic Church. If this is true, that the Catholic priesthood are a unit, and are acting in concert, in this business, it is quite sufficient to account for the otherwise unaccountable unanimity of

the politicians and demagogues on this question. I have no direct evidence that what I suspect is actually true, but it is a sort of intuition which seems to be supported by numerous circumstances, all pointing in the same direction, one of the most important of which is the sudden strength which the anti-Chinese movement has developed. If I am correct in my suspicion, the fact when publicly known, ought to excite the Protestant churches in a solid movement for the defence of the right of Chinamen to emigrate, and their right of domicil, or citizenship in this country. I am told, though I have not seen it, that the Irish World, which has an enormous circulation, is a most intense hater of the Chinese, and I have never yet found a Catholic who was not. If the Catholic church cannot make a Catholic of a Chinaman, it would naturally very strenuously oppose his gaining a foothold in this country and taking the place of its most obedient and devoted subjects from whom its revenue is

P.S. I am ashamed and chagrinned that my cousin
Senator Grover from Oregon is a zealous enemy
of the Chinese.

chiefly derived. Pardon me for taking the liberty & your time in making these suggestions, which though I have never seen expressed, you may have already considered. Though an issue between the Catholic and Protestant churches would be to some, deplorable, yet I believe it must and will come sooner or later. And if so, why not the quicker the better?

Especially when the issue is one of human rights, and every right-minded man could take sides against Rome. It would be a most pregnant issue upon which to rouse the country to a defence of Mongolian rights.

Thanking you again for your letter and for your most cogent arguments in reply to that arch demagogue Blaine, I am with the greatest respect

Faithfully Yours

A. J. Grover

MS. A. 1.2 v. 40 p. 89 (b)